Pakistan's legitimate needs have been conveyed to all concerned including the Swedish Government. Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take all necessary measures to safeguard it.

Protection of the Interests of Indian Exporters in Barcelona

2090. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the consulate General of India in Barcelona, Spain has been unable to protect the interests of Indian exporters even on representations from the Indian parties from the business on-slaughts let loose by some Spanish business community;

(b) whether the representations from the Indian exporters have not been attended to even by the office of Consulate General of India in Spain despite repeated requests;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what further action is being proposed to take up the issue with his counterpart in Spanish Government in order that bilateral trade agreements between the two countries may not have adverse effects on Indian economy and export business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) We do not have a consulate General in Barcelona. We have an Honorary Consul General who essentially looks after consular matters. Matters related to trade between India and Spain are handled by our Embassy in Madrid.

(b) and (c) Queries and representations received from Indian businessmen by our Honorary Consul General in Barcelona are redirected to our Embassy in Madrid which looks into them promptly with a view to helping Indian exporters.

(d) Disputes of a commerical nature are essentially for the parties concerned to resolve directly between themselves. However, whenever such disputes are brought to the attention of our Embassy in Madrid, it invariably takes appropriate action to try and facilitate an amicable settlement by contacting the concerned parties and Chambers of Commerce in Spain.

US Dual Policy in Arms Dealing

2091. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news appearing in 'Dainik Jagaran' dated 16th July, 1994 regarding US dual policy in arms dealing; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto and the stand taken/likely to be taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government policies with respect to procurement of arms are determined by national security considerations and factors such as cost, performance etc. It would not be in the interest of national security to comment on details of arrangements that have been or are being worked out in this regard.

Eligibility Criteria to Hold Diplomatic Passport

2092. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the immunities and facilities available to holders of Indian Diplomatic Passports;

(b) who is entitled to hold a Diplomatic Passport;